(vii) Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser--representative of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(b) As per the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, the Chairman and the other Members, except the ex-officio Members, the Nominated Member and the elected Members, are appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of a committee consisting of:—

(i) the Chairman of the Council of States, who shall be the Chairman of the Committee;

(ii) the Chairman of the Press Council of India established under section 4 of the Press Council Act, 1978; and

(iii) one nominee of the President of India.

(c) Prasar Bharati sources its programmes from outside on sponsorship commissioned basis, depending on the requirements of various channels, from time to time. As per the guidelines issued recently, these proposals are evaluated by a Committee of Experts which includes outsiders as well. Sourcing of proposal is a continuing process and systems have been streamlined to minimize the delays in processing of the proposals.

(d) As per the availability of funds and suitablity of content for the North-East Channel, about 450 proposals have been cleared by Prasar Bharati from January 2001 till date for the North-East Channel. Producer of programmes not found suitable have been informed. Fresh proposals will be invited as and when funds are available for this purpose.

Emergence of Indian Entertainment Industry

1443. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating certain steps to boost the Indian entertainment industry in view of emergence of this industry to the international level;

(b) whether Government are considering to bring it to the concurrent list of the Constitution; and

(c) the response of State Governments regarding the rationalization of entertainment in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) With the objective of the all round development of the film industry, the Government has already facilitated institutional and bank finance to the film production, as well as provided the film sector with fiscal incentives to create a climate of growth. The Indian participation in Cannes film festival and market was also successful this year and played a major role in focusing on Indian cinema and promoting India as a destination for shooting and post production facilities.

(b) and (c) State Governments were *inter alia* requested to consider rationalizing the rates of Entertainment Tax so that a uniform tax structure prevailed in the country. For this purpose, the question of bringing the subject of cinema on the concurrent list was also taken up with the State Governments. However, no consensus was arrived at in the matter. In the 24th Conference of States and Union Territory Ministers of Information held in New Delhi on 21.01.2001, this issue was deliberated. In pursuance of the recommendations of this Conference, a Committee was set up for Development of the Entertainment Sector, to suggest the policy framework both at the Centre and in the States for realizing the potential of the Entertainment Sector. One of the issues discussed in this Committee was the question of rationalizing Entertainment Tax rates. As a result of the deliberations in the Committee, it has been decided to recommend that all States/ Union Territory Administrations fix a ceiling of 60% on entertainment tax.

Task Force on Conditional Access System

1444. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD CASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted any task force on Conditional Access System (CAS);

(b) if so, the details of the task force and the names of the members;

(c) whether the task force has started working; and

(d) if so, the terms of reference of the task force and by when, the report will be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a), (b) and (d) The Government has constituted a Task Force to examine various issues relating to the introduction of Conditional Access System. The Task Force includes, *inter-alia,* representatives of the Cable